

Former Prime Minister, Mr McMahon tripped into the Copland Lecture Theatre last Monday night to address a small and remarkably tolerant audience. Pleased with his reception, he afterwards happily signed everything in sight, including an Australia Party policy statement and three cards addressed to M. Pompidou, protesting about the French N.-tests.

Shedding the protective company of Allan Murray-Jones, he accepted an invitation for coffee at Bruce Hall where he spoke more freely. Here follows a list of highlights from the Billy McMahon Show:

McMahon: "...as one who has lived an uncertain life and got into the game by mischance, I found I could do a lot of things other people couldn't do — but probably not so well". "I did my most constructive

work as Treasurer and Minister for Labour & National Service".

Whitlam: He has a first class brain, but isn't doing his homework, and can't handle three portfolios at once. He is a good speaker and has a better physique than Menzies, but he tends to be vicious – even feline. (He called Mr McMahon a "cunt" and "the notorious homosexual from Kings Cross) – I can't be both.

## OFF THE TOP OF HIS HEAD

Morrison: He's getting better – I detested him in Opposition. Now the sooner we leave him alone at question time, the better for us.

Barnard: He is absolutely trustworthy and a hard worker, but he can't possibly handle six portfolios and so will make mistakes.

#### Cairns: No comment

Hayden: He is not as good an economist as he thinks he is, but he is improving all the time — he's five times as good in government as I thought he would be, and I see him as a future Labor leader.

Crean: Doesn't have the economic omnipotence he thinks he has, but again is completely trustworthy.

Cameron: His ideas on economic issues are twenty years out of date. He is a bully, too engrossed in trade unions and very left wing. He is an old style socialist from before Chifley.

Gorton: "My friend and colleague, John Gorton .... we were the best of friends before we ... ah ... separated" He is a bonny fighter and will give Labor merry hell. Our Relationship with US: 'Bloody awful under Labor'

Nixon: He is not a good speaker and has not got a good brain, but he is a very hard worker, and like Whitlam, surrounds himself with a firstclass team to train him. He is very astute (he avoided speaking publicly more than once during his entire election campaign). I am very good friends with him, he trusts me absolutely. He always told me beforehand of any decisions, except once that was Kissinger's trip to Peking, Like me (and Menzies) he has a great fear of leaks. (This stems from the time Nixon told the defence Council the evening before he was to sign a S.A.L.T. agreement, and the news appeared in the papers the next morning. The result was that the Russians refused to sign).

Leaks: I have a great fear of leaks – it makes me shudder to see one. Two weeks into office, cabinet made the decision to withdraw toops. I stayed behind to write it up and by the time I left, the presses knew. (Q: Are you saying one of your cabinet leaked it?) Yes, no one else could have

known.

On Homosexuality: "What is my attitude? - I don't know much about it" ..... "I have been accused of many things in the house"....

On ASIO: I've had the good fortune to be associated with ASIO for some years, before I was a married man'.

Marijuana: "...my outlook towards many things is rapidly changing and so I will say nothing".

Advisor on Women's affairs: 'If I had \$10,000 a year to spend on a female assistant I certainly would, although I think I would have chosen the beautiful girl in the front row" (Rigmor-Helene).

Vietnam: "I think that I have never seen a better display than that which our boys put on in Vietnam. I think it showed one Australian has the value of three of anyone else".

"Before the election...I wanted to abolish conscription...however it would not have been politic to announce my thoughts so close to an election".

Springbok Tour: "I wanted them to come. I would bring them out again now". On the Economy: (then) "...was in almost as healthy a state as any Government could have got it...' (now) "...is not operating as perfectly as we know it was....' 1970-71 Budget '...in my own somewhat simple view, it was wrong'. (On Treasury's argument of inflation rate against his doubts) "It frightened the daylights out of a person like myself, who doesn't think much about inflation."

Inflation will be labor's biggest problem.

Labor Election Victory: "... a chance to express themselves"... "...by opportunity or unfortunate accident..." "...blundering from crisis to crisis..."

Their downfall: "We became so absorbed with administrative business that we lost touch with the issues at hand".

(Major Reason) "...it would do my party a lot of harm if I said what I thought"...

Q: I'D like to ask a question of Billy McMahon, the man". A: Billy – what?

**Rigmor-Helene & Friends** 

## news

#### WORONI ELECTION CHOICES

Well, if you are looking amongst this lot for someone to let you create your Union out of the sterile mess the admin. has created - then you look in vain.

Si Cameron is an ex-board member who proved incompetent.

Mark Findlay thinks he's a good screw and the Union will certainly fuck him.

Mark Darling - son of a millionaire and brilliant skier but his skiing won't leave him time for the Union Board and anyway could he possibly understand the plight of poor students.

Helen Pringle, a bit of a moral guardian but a reasonably competent and hard worker. Much better value than Jude Turner. Member SRC 1971/72; Educ. Officer, Bicycles Committee; Treasurer, Labour Club. A more open, less authoritarian manner.

Jane Drake-Brockman could provide a bit of economics to a remarkably unqualified Board.

WORONI COMPETION Send us a brand-new chauffeur driven air conditioned, automatic Rolls-Royce with colour TV and cocktail bar before 27th April and you could win a paragraph of not more than twenty-five (25) words, describing how wonderful we think Woroni is. First correct entry will win. Judges decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

WORENI COPETITION Can you Woroni better than your next-door neighbour? Perhaps you are World Woroni champion.

WORNI SPELINK COPETION Put your answers on a stamped self-addressed envelope and send send them to anybody but us.

## UNION DOINGS

The settling-in pains at the new Union haven't exactly been negligible. Sadness at the loss of the terrace and alienation from the white un-graffitti-ed walls were the first signs - and then the anger at petty rules. Some members of the Union administration seemed to think that the only way to keep the building for students was to prevent the students from doing anything in it. The reaction came in the form of wall-writing, in the Bar and in the female toilets, and

Latest report on the hotline from god (God, if you happen to be one of those) indicates that everything is running smoothly on the planet Earth (earth, if you happen to be one of those), except for a little spot of bother at the Australian National University. He did not wish to elaborate.

stirred the Union people out

of their lethargy to take some

At a meeting held in the Board

Room at 4 o'clock on Friday,

though it was obvious that

of view. Some felt the

in the bar, others didn't.

In the end, it was realised

poorly planned - its not

and provide a few plastic

cups; that there were not

should not be left white:

enough ash-trays or rubbish

bins in the Bar: that the walls

posters, a mural or something

of the kind would help con-

that the free beer had been

enough to simply open a tap

students had different points

graffitti was justified, others

didn't; some wanted children

the major grievances were aired.

notice of the complaints.

Why does deTotth make everything so difficult? In order to bring out this organ. Woroni staff had to scale a perilous 20ft brick wall and break into the new Union twice during the weekend. (Ho Hum, so much for security precautions.)

Sydney porn festival - the repercussions flow (see p.3)

### Dear Sir,

I am writing to you on the subject of the very discreet machine closeted behind the toilet doors of the Union. While I applaud the initial concern for safety which prompted those in Power to unselfishly install such a device, I still have fears which prevent me making the utmost use of this service. In that very revealing lecture during O Week (my thanks to the man in red) entitled 'Sex & Its Friends, a young lady who looked like she knew (....) stated that there were only two brands of those things I'm talking about which were in any way fool proof. My point is this. The brand in the Union is not one of those she recommended.

letters

What should I do in my quandry? Abstain? Or should my enquiry be more properly directed to the Sports Union?

Yours, in expectation, Anxious.

Ed. Dear Anxious, The original brand name of the product in question is one of the recommended two brands the name marked on the packet is that only of the distributors.

#### Dear Sir,

1% GNP for aid - how should it be spent? What, specifically should our aid to developing countries be doing? Foreign Affairs is deciding NOW. After mid May there will be no point in lobbying - it will all be decided. This years sets a pattern for the future. It's time!!!!!!!.

I urge all Woroni readers to write to Whitlam now with your priorities and specific pro-

Those interested in making their proposals effective, or in knowing what would be most useful type of proposal should contact Ann Pickering (c/- SRC or at 3 Hackett Gardens, Turner, Ph. 480265), Nancy Viviani R.S.P.S. or Anne McLaren, Peter Hartley or Graeme Williams at Bruce Hall.

prices (though everyone seems

Refectory staff, but to a Board Chris Macphillamy, Andrew

Areas that could be argued for: more multilateral aid? \* stopping aid to Indonesia?

aid to Vietnam? \* aid to African Liberation movements (the World Council of Churches does; why not Australia)? \*concentrating on a few areas

livestock and supporting Research Institutes in these areas in Developing Countries.

of expertise e.g. agriculture &

Should we be giving aid at all?

Many types of aid, it can be argued, do more harm than good. Yet people are in need should we refuse to help out of gin-and-tonic radicalism?

Is it not a question of what type of aid?

In which case a letter to Foreign Affairs, arguing against more of the same would be in order.

We believe that at the moment specific proposals (not rhetoric) is the most effective form of action. The lobbying has been done - they need practical suggestions.

Ann Pickering, ANU Development Action.

Now I don't ask for much from Clene Gene's Union. I don't mind the graffiti on the walls -I don't mind I don't even mind an UnClened

Bar, but the scene in the dikes was just too unhygenic. Here I was, having just oozed out a fairly normal sized turd, trying to flush it away. The first delicate spurt from the dike only just nudged a delicate piece of faeces in the bowels of the bowl. The rest just sat there looking at me." After waiting the requisite five minutes, I flushed again. My turd just rolled around in its

but shitty dikes never! Walter Thompson.

you feel it is your Union, then be constructive, not destructive.

Richard Refshauge.

Page 2 ø National Library of Australia

http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page16010940

posals. siderably. Crisps and peanuts

were turned on and children

admitted (after a quick check

with the Police proved that it

was not illegal for them to be

On the other hand, people

had explained, and accepted

the reasons for the demand

for student cards at the Bar

and agreed that the state of

the Bar after Thursday's booze-

period was really unreasonable.

The Executive agreed that the

question of food in the Bar

should be discussed by the

Board, and also referred

the need for clocks in the

Refectory and Milk Bar

and the Pool table in the

Monday 16 April.

Bar to the Board meeting on

door during busy periods

there).

Is everyone now happy? Of course not. There are still problems - no balcony, high to agree that quality has improved) and many minor matters.

So what does it prove? It proves that the Union members, need not stew in their own complaints, but can get things done or altered if they speak to some-one about it. Not to the over-worked Bar/ member, or to Gene de Totth (Union Secretary) or Bill Milne (Admin. Officer). The Student Board members are: Patrick Power (chairman), Richard Refshauge (deputy chairman), Frank Keighley (executive member), Michael Marks,

Dear Sir,

bowels of the bowl. He bowl. I can take many things,

> McCredie and Laurel Smith. Board election - here is your chance to get someone you can talk to onto the Board are now being held. Watch notice boards for details. The problems of the Union will continue to be obvious, but can only be overcome by constructive criticism such as that of the students who cleaned the Bar on Friday, or who moved in the chairs from the Societies Room. If



# Pig rule in Melb.

At 1 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, Woroni received a phone call from the offices of National U. in Melbourne informing us of a police raid that had taken place two hours previously. The Vice-Squad had entered the offices of AUS in Drummond St., Carlton and siezed all available back copies of National U, some 3% thousand in number and had searched the office removing various files and material.

Considering this a reliable tip that something actually had happened, Snow White, editor of Woroni, sent her top reporters, Clark Kent and Jimmy Olsen to investigate. They immediately flew to Melbourne to interview David Spratt and John Reid, editors of National U.

The activities of the Vice-Squad were not restricted by the geography of Melbourne. Simultaneously with the raid on Drummond Street, the cops arrived at Waverly Press in Mulgrave and at the home of the printer Mr. Vic Castle in Hawthorn. The police at the press requisitioned what copies Vic Castle admitted holding, one each of the seven back issues, giving again as their reason that they had received complaints. This was not their first visit to Waverly Press, which was one of the printers raided in Meaghers Fist War

Reid: At about 11 o'clock, we had a phone call from reception — warning us that the Vice-Squad were here. We assumed they had come to sieze copies, so while they were stalled downstairs, we managed to stash a substantial number. They finally muscled past reception and waltzed into the layout room. We told them our names.

Spratt: When they asked if we were the same people who edited National U. They received 'have sought legal advice and am making no admission'. John's answer was much the same. This rather annoyed them, and they became hostile.

Reid: We asked to see a warrant, but they refused, saying we had not identified ourselves sufficiently. They pro ceeded to collect all the 'National U's' in sight - about three and a half thousand. Meanwhile, McLean arrived and identified himself as publisher. The pigs were concerned that he was a "person of authority". Apparently as President of AUS he fitted this category. The pigs produced a warrant and answered his questions. From that moment, David and I were ignored by the pigs. They adopted the attitude 'If you won't answer our questions, we wont answer yours'.

Spratt: They just wandered through the room looking through our art work drawers, took the layout sheets and

and it was thus past intimidation that had resulted in the green INDECENT stamp covering the cock on the cover of the latest issue.

The fact that the Vice-Squad also searched Mr Castle's private home, (ostensibly because they thought the printing press was there) indicates the generally intimidating atmosphere that surrounded the affair.

Until last Wednesday it seemed that the enthusiasm of Ray Meagher's anti-porn campaign had cooled a little. Except for the siezure of a quantity of Medium-core variety from Melbourne's 3rd World Bookshop on March 28, and the covering of the finely chiselled genitalia of Michaelangelo's David, the Meagher-Griffiths super swooper combination had been showing little sign of activity. The publication of an article reporting the Indecency Festival in Sydney and detailing the collusion between Meagher & Griffiths however revived the drooping interest of the Vice-Squad.

The flatfoot's seizure of all available copies of the last 7 editions of National U at this particular time and the reasons they gave for doing this raise a number of issues.

The timing of the raid and the cop's interest in the latest

looked long and hard at a whole series of contraceptive ads that were run in Woroni last year. That really had them worried for awhile. They went through every-

thing. They took photos that w re hangover from last year, and cardboard cock impressions used in the last issue of Cold Comfort.

*Reid:* Pigs shovelling cardboard phallic symbols into an envelope. And they then got caught up in a real hot bed of indecency when they found a pile of time magazines which were thumbed through very carefully.

There were two Nation Reviews on a chair. The sergeant in charge, quite knowledgeable about the whole media world, looked through it and said 'What's this one of yours?' McLean just stood there laughing 'It comes out every week.' To which the pig replied 'So it's a normal paper, is it?'

Spratt: The stupid thing was that they walked into the editorial office next door and didn't realize it was part of 'National U.' They missed about 500 copies in there and another two and a half thousand under the stairs. Not very smart.

Woroni: How many pigs were there?

*Reid:* Three. Detective sergeant McDonald was their ringleader, and two others.

issue suggest that what was seen as offensive was not the odd fuck or arse, or even the picture(described in the mass press as "depicting a sex act", but obviously of the variety limited to contortionists) but the article criticising the antiporn laws.

the low to

Few of the "astronomical" number of complaints the Vice-Squad had found itself innundated with seeped through to National U. where the few they had received were matched by letters of support. It is perhaps significant that the raid came in the wake of the DLP's defeat in the AUS referendum at La Trobe: perhaps, their disappointment moved them to express their indignation with AUS by complaints against National U.

The sort of material that National U has been printing has no doubt caused embarassment in certain quarters, the police being no exception.

Of the courses open in any attempt to intimidate the student press, obscenity raids are perhaps the easiest to carry out, and the subsequent legal processes costly in terms of money and time. The ability of the Vice-Squad to strike at random and on flimsy grounds divorces their actions from any relation with reality.

Shane.

One was much older. He was fuming over our uncooperative attitude – not answering the questions which would very nicely place us at their disposal when they issue a summons.

Woroni: What were their reasons for coming?

Spratt: They didn't give any at first. Eventually, they told McLean "We've received many complaints and when I say many, I mean 'astronomical"

This sounds far fetched. We have half a dozen letters at most and they were more than balanced by comments of approval... This is all supposition, but, it is possibly indicative of a planned campaign by the DLP elements within the

universities. The DLP lost the referendum at La Trobe pretty badly, and it is a generally accepted theory that the DLP are out to screw AUS. Having failed at La Trobe, their next course of action could be to ring the Vice-Squad, en masse and complain – forcing a raid. But it is still rather strange that they didn't act on some of the earlier complaints before . Now that only one interpretation.

Woroni: Was there anything here except those directly related to Vice Squad activities that they might have found useful?

Reid: Its another possible interpretation, but one of the



Vice squad pig - on the down and out

least likely. They didn't sit down and read anything they were after the "usual" visual displays of pornography. They picked up a negative of the page with Foss's 'Undergarments Junkie' article in it. That just didn't register on them. They weren't reading anything though they went through the motions.

*Woroni:* What was the general atmosphere of the raid?

Reid: Positively indecent!

Woroni: When did the press arrive?

Spratt: As soon as McLean realized there were reporters outside. He invited them in. They photographed the pig's searching the room. The pigs were not amused.

*Reid:* Apparently there was a dearth of news, and reporters follow the Vice Squad around, especially with the mentality that accompanies the 'David' poster raid.

Woroni: Were they after any article or graphic in particular?

Spratt: The big pig told the little pig to make sure he had copies of the issue with the green cover. The little pig had a bundle in his arms, flexed his muscles, smiled, and walked out. They were making sure they were getting that issue. That issue does point out the collusion between Meagher and Griffiths. They may have also been motivated by the story on the busts in Canberra in the previous issue. Apparently the Canberra pigs reacted to it

*Reid:* The photograph in the last issue that the media down here were labelling "a couple in a sex act" came from the festival of indecency at Sydney. It was taken by one of the Sydney papers and never used.

Spratt: Its hard to know what motivated the raid. In the court, they do not have to identify the complainants.

*Reid:* If it goes to court, and its bound to, they have to get real live people to say that each issue is indecent. Under the new law no-oneneed be offended. What will be interest ing is who the pigs bring in as witnesses, especially if they are students.

*Reid:* In a way it was a token raid, and in others it was very thorough. They went to the extent of nearly opening a still sealed box of photographic paper.

Spratt: I told them not to open it because they would ruin the paper. Back came the reply: 'How do I know what it is if I don't open it!'.

*Reid:* Since over half a mill-, ion copies have been distributed so far this year, it seems remarkably stupid and petty that they chose to sieze three thousand.

Spratt: They weren't the smartest pigs I've ever listened to.

Page 3

# **Beazley interviewed**

On Friday, Michael Dunn, Rigmor-Helene Berg and Andrew McCredie interviewed the Minister of Education Mr. Beazley.

1.1.1.1

1126

M.D. Do you see education as a means to social equality? And in what way?

K.B. No, I don't see education as a means to social equality. I think the objective of social equality is something far bigger than what you endeavour to obtain in the classroom or in schools, but I think that education tends to emphasize inequalities and that it's possible to change education to the extent that it doesn't emphasize it so much. You will not effect a social transformation through education alone.

M.D.: Would you see the school then as the best means to education?

K.B.: Well, it ought to be. Schools have been used for all sorts of purposes in the past. I think when Stalin said that education is a weapon whose nature depends upon whom you intend to strike with it, it is true to say that he didn't discover that principle. I think schools ought to be entirely instruments of education.

Education is the development of the personality which takes place as a result of an individuals learnings. And the personality is the sum total, I would think, of our attitudes and aptitudes. And it certainly is the function of the school to create valid attitudes towards truth and so on, and also to develop aptitudes. A lot of education is going to go on outside schools. Obviously. This is what teachers discover when they find that they cannot in point of fact counter the influence of the home. In other words there is another educational force and that's society in general.

M.D.: So would you say then that schools, institutions, are not the main educative force?

K.B.: Well, it is for some people and I would say in my own childhood the main cultural influence almost certainly was the school, although there were other ones. It's certainly not as powerful a cultural influence as society in general. It's part of it. I'm inclined to think a lot of children take much more notice of the real values that are operating in society than those that are taught in schools for good or ill.

M.D.: Then you wouldn't see school in Australia today as enforcing cultural values?

K.B.: I would hope not. The decisions that have been made in relation to Aboriginal education are all decisions made in the direction of trying to stop European cultural values being imposed on Aboriginal children. So I do not see schools as a weapon for enforcing cultural values. I think they can be an expression of the cultural values of communities and this is what we are trying to do with the schools of the Aboriginal communities.

A.McC.: Do you think the schools will help try and reverse some of the inequalities in our society? Is that an aim?

K.B.: Oh, yes. I certainly think they're an instrument of it, but I was asked a wider question than that. I don't know that they're terribly effective, not the effective weapon. I certainly think the whole tendency should be that way.

M.D.: Would you see increased government finance as the answer to what social inequalities exist within that system itself?

K.B.: Yes. You need to be careful in this respect. In 28 vears in Parliament, I don't think I've ever had any requests from any teacher's organizations for assistance for poor children. It's always been on the question of schools Now, the grants that are made to enable Aboriginal children to stay in secondary education which we've extended right through the whole structure of secondary education is assistance to poverty. You can almost say, ipso facto, if a person is an Aborigine he is poor. The assistance we are now giving to isolated children is means-tested according to the parents' means. It varies between \$350 and \$1004 dollars p.a. My Department is currently researching means of assisting other areas of poor families to keep their children at school. Now this is not raising the question is it particularly good or bad, but near my own electorate is Hollywood High School, On one side are quite poor suburbs, on the other are quite well-to-do suburbs, and it's quite conspicuous that those who complete a secondary education came from the wellto-do suburbs. Now, it doesn't matter how many swimming pools or hall's or facilities are put into Hollywood High School, unless something is done to assist the parents to keep their children there, those children will not get the benefit of it. And this underlies our thinking on needy tertiary students and on assisting children to stay at school. Now this is a separate question altogether from making schools worth staying

M.D.: Would you say that the main aim of your policy is direct grants means-tested grants, to persons rather than to institutions?

K.B.: You can't say it's the main aim of our policy. We operate within a constitutional framework. We have a direct power to grant benefits to students and I want to use that direct power to grant benefits to students to the full, to assist students in need, whatever level they are. We have only an indirect power outside of Commonwealth territories to make grants to the States. We have established, or will have by the end of this week 5 Commissions, some of them we have inherited like AUC, CAEC, from which we hope to get expert reports on the needs of education tabled independently of my will in Parliament as a challenge to the Government, and setting out a direction in which the Government ought to follow independently of the administrators or the bureaucrats. And we believe that the professional expertise of these Commissions is the best way of taking education out of politics and getting it in the direction of achieving proper cultural aims.

R.B.: How would you implement these grants to the children?

K.B.: The emergency grant of \$3,000,000 to tertiary students this year went through the VC's or the Principals of the CAEs. \$46 million p.a. in Commonwealth Scholarships now goes to those who win them. Next year admission to a tertiary institution means the Commonwealth will pay the fees. Family need on the part of the student will mean that there will be universal means-tested scholarships, which will be a living allowance for them [students], and in addition to that any student who gets a whole or part of a living allowance will get a Contingencies Allowance each year in a lump sum at the beginning of the year which will meet student costs. Now that will go straight to the student, not to VCs excepting fees will be paid by direct payment by the Bur-

R.B.: So apart from fees, everything is fully meanstested? There won't be any direct book allowances?

K.B.: Not universally, no. That will come in the Contingency allowances and will go to those who, under the means test, get a living allowance in whole or in part. They'll get the whole Contingency allowance even if they get only part of the living allowance.

M.D.: Do you intend to make schools apolitical?

K.B.: No. I said I hoped to make the decisions about schools apolitical. I don't see how anything in itself can become apolitical.

M.D.: Well, do you intend to cut aid to the better-off independent schools?

K.B.: This is entirely in the hands of the Schools' Commission. In their terms of reference they are instructed to give priorities according to need. They will be coming up with recommendations. When the late Government brought in the new legislation late last year, intending for it to operate 5 years, the motion which I moved in the House was that "The House, while not refusing its 2nd Reading to the Bill was of the opinion that this structure should only last for one year and that there after grants to private schools should be on the basis of need as determined by a schools commission." Now we made it perfectly clear we are opposed to a system in which there was a flat rate grant to a school whose fees were \$2,000 pa at one extreme and whose resources were consequently more than adequate and one whose fees were \$30 pa and whose resources were consequently desperate

M.D.: Do you see any valuable role for non-government schools in the long term?

K.B.: Well any congregation of able teachers who run a school can give extremely valuable service and I don't want to see all schools run by the Government. I have got a great deal of sympathy for people who are putting up experimental schools to carry out new ideas in education.

A.McC.: Could experimental schools be run within a Government framework?

K.B.: Yes. They ought to be able to.

A.McC.: Well, most nongovernment schools at the moment are ones run by churches formalizing students and this is really what we are getting at.

K.B.: Yes, but they're static. The Church of England is not opening new schools, whereas the number of experimental schools being opened around Australia is quite impressive.

M.D.: In the government schools how much say do you feel any government, be it Commonwealth or State, ought to have over the curriculum?

K.B.: I would like State High Schools to be as autonomous as the private secondary schools. They are governed by their own independent Councils. I would like the Universities which have some influence



Kim Beazley good on generalities: but on details?

over the curricular of secondary schools because of Matriculation really to look at all of this in educational terms other than in a sort of an entry-term which is all they do at the present time. I would like schools to determine their own curricula - I think there is a case of subject matter-mathematics and so on where you must have a general standard of proficiency that runs right through. But I think all the field of social studies and the languages taught, ought to be the greatest diversity in schools.

M.D.: Would you see formalized education then as schooling directed towards vocational training in the main?

K.B.: I think the young people themselves should be consulted in this. We have just had a survey of the 5th and 6th formers of Melbourne, Sydney Hobart, and Canberra and they want a new form of secondary school. They want it to have the widest possible curriculum from the technical and vocational to the ultra-academic They want the widest possible range of courses offering. They want an end to the old shibboleths for instance you mustn't talk about dogmatic and polemical theology. They want to be able to discuss religion or anything; if necessary they want to bring in a Catholic priest to explain the Catholic faith or a Buddhist priest to explain Budd hism or anything like that. It seems to me that they do want schools to be instruments whereby young people can satisfy intellectual curiosity and where they can develop skills.

M.D.: How far then is your department prepared to provide financial assistance which I suppose is the most involved important role for the Commonwealth Government to either independent experimental schools or to these more desirable wider-ranging secondary schools?

K.B.: The Schools Commission or the interim Committee of the Schools Commission, I understand, has worked out what you might call an index figure - now this is not what it is but we'll explain the nature of it. Supposing you take the average, reasonably adequate high-school as 100 then there are aboriginal schools which would be rated as 25 in the resources they've got and there are independent schools that would be rated over 200 in the resources they've got. So if you ask how far I would follow their recommendations to bring the schools that are not at an adequate standard up to proper standards of resources and this is the whole purpose of the exercise of the Schools' Commission.

M.D.: So you would feel your role to be somewhat of an administrator of the Schools' Commissions' recommendations?

K.B.: Oh, no. I won't administer them. We'll pass, I presume, on the recommendations of the Schools' Commission, States' Grants acts which will give grants to the states.

So that we can aim assistance at specific schools in the States. The questionnaire sent out by the Schools' Commission asked the States to name their 20 worst schools –

Page 4

primary and high-schools. So that we can go on target for those, in the initial assistance; otherwise, in the past the generalisation has been made that with the private schools we assist specific schools but with the state schools the money has been given as a generalised grant to the States and they decide how it is to be used. They have been asked to nominate their worst schools

M.D.: How far would you go to make sure that the States cooperate in this venture?

K.B.: I can't constitutionally force the States to do anything; neither can the Commonwealth Government.

But...the figure will not be the same but the amount being spent at this ... this present triennium is 287 million dollars a year, that's before whatever Campbell recommends about academic salaries. Now we have offered to lift that burden from the States provided the money that is so released is spent in other areas of education. And the recommending of the way that that money is to be spent will be in the hands of the School's Commission, the Pre-School Commission, the Child Care Centres and the Technical Education Commission. That's how far we're prepared to go at the present time, the present costs of tertiary education as a new injection into other areas of education. But to ensure that the States, well you have seen the reception that certain States have given these proposals.

Now they are only grants under Section 96. Section 96 of the Constitution says the **Commonwealth Parliament** can make grants to the States on the terms and conditions the Commonwealth Parliament thinks fit. Now the terms and conditions we think fit are that it be spent in other areas of education. There has already been a kick back. Some State may wish to spend the money so released on Beef Roads. Well under those circumstances it wouldn't meet the conditions of the grant. But, at the present time this is an offer to the State Premiers to be discussed at the next Premiers' Conference and I don't know what their reaction is going to be except that two have already denounced us.

M.D.: Then how, assuming that they continue to denounce you and assuming that they continue to maintain the non-cooperative stance what will...

K.B.: I believe that if the government of NSW refused an offer of something like \$90 million for education it would fall. But constitutionally there's nothing we can do to make them take it. I mean there was an offer to one State of \$15 million for housing. Our view was that it should be for rental homes. The State Government then said under those terms it would not accept the offer. That lasted nine days then they accepted the offer. 1 . don't honestly think that any of them will ultimately reject the offer.

M.D.: Moving to the tertiary level, I understand that you intend to direct university administrations to collect Union and Student Association Fees?

ALOX

K.B.: I don't intend to direct them to collect anything. The Commonwealth payment to the universities will be tuition fees, library fees, examination fees, laboratory fees, registration fees anything connected with education. In addition those students who receive a living allowance under the means test will be given a contingency allowance which will be more than sufficient to meet any of these other fees. But there are CAE's which don't have Union fee's and Sport Union fees. We are not going to direct them to collect it. This entirely ia a matter in which student organisations are self-govern-

M.D.: Well, suppose a University administration was opposed to a particular Students' Association policy and refused through its administrative channels to collect the appropriate Union fees if there were such fees. Would the Commonwealth place any pressure on that university to collect the fees?

K.B.: Well, I can't answer that question as I have no direction from the Prime Minister or Cabinet on this matter. The directions I have had from the P.M. and Cabinet on this matter were to offer the States that we would carry the entire cost of universities, technical schools, teachers colleges and so on, remit all the fees of the students but not Union and Sports fees. However for all those students who needed the assistance, a contingencies allowance would be paid which I assume would be books and those sorts of fees. But it will be their decision to pay them. I imagine that the universities are going to vary on these sort of questions.

A.McC.: This puts certain Unions in a very difficult financial position, where they have long term loans but yet they don't know whether they will be able to collect their fees in a particular year. For example, our Union...

K.B.: Well, my son was the President of a Guild of Undergraduates and had to carry the servicing of a debt of \$1 million that his predecessors had incurred in building a Sports Centre. I don't think any university could possibly ignore debts on university

buildings to that extent. Those sort of liabilities that lie on organizations in the university are rather different from membership fees. The Commonwealth Scholarship System will continue to exist. It will faze out as no new scholarships are awarded, in that all Commonwealth payments that have been made in the past including those ones you have been talking about will continue to be made. My own view about Student Union Buildings and these sorts of things that are so expensive is that what was done at the ANU ought to be done everywhere. I think the Commonwealth Government put in more than a \$1¼ million to that Student Union Building. There would be negrounds for saying that there was a student debt on it. I think the provision of those sorts of facilities is part of a university, but the membership of organizations is a different matter. I think it is a good part of a university too, but I don't think that the Commonwealth Government is involved.

A.McC.: Well, so if a particular university admin. did decide that the Students Association of that university was not worthwhile, and therefore would not collect the fees you would see this as a purely internal fight between that admin. and the students?

K.B.: Well, it may be purely an internal fight between students and students if what your representatives have said to me is true. But I made clear to them that while I was making the offer which was the one which I was authorised to make, we still wanted submissions from them on this general question. So the question you are asking me now I really do regard as subjudicy. It is a matter of continuing discussion with the Australian Union of Students and I would say that there is no finality of decision. However I did get an indication that supposing you did give student a contingency allowance of \$125 and the Union fee was \$50 some students might refuse to pay. Well, this makes me very sad, but you know, immediately - I am very sad if there is so little student interest in their own Unions.

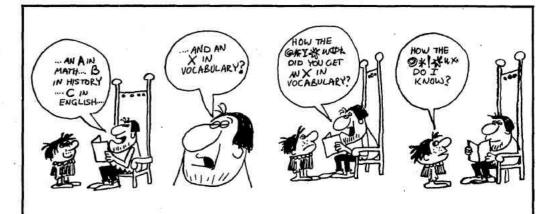
A.McC.: Last year when you talked to John Reid about Commonwealth Secondary Scholarships you said that you were not intending to change them as you believed the hopes of so many children depended on the results of them. I was extremely surprised by that remark as I thought it clashed with your whole philosophy.

K.B.: Of course it does. 1 think actually to have this as a scheme of assistance in the field of secondary education is quite disastrous - as the only one. But I can't repudiate immediately all the scholarships that are existing. These kids have won them and the fazing in of a new form of assistance is going to take some time. It is not my first priority at the moment. My department is already researching the means of assisting children in need to continue their secondary education. And the tentative scheme that has come up looks as if it will cost about \$30 million. I don't know how this is going to go. It has to be analysed and tested in many ways, but I believe this is the only way to fulfill the original statement of Sir Robert Menzies when he introduced the scholarship scheme and said this is a system to assist students, who would otherwise not get a secondary education, to get a secondary education. Now I think it has been overwhelmingly established that 97% of the children who get the Commonwealth Secondary Scholarship now, would complete a secondary education even if they didn't get the scholarship and therefore it is not assisting the section of the community most in need. But there are contractual relations of the Commonwealth Government with this and the whole position of Secondary Scholarships has to be rethought. We have quite a lot of other problems to deal with first,

Here we ended the interview but there were still a few unanswered questions left.

If Labor really believes that the present education system i.e. schooling is not capable of removing social inequalities why aren't they providing free access to other means of education e.g. libraries are barely open outside most people's working hours, where is our open university?

If they believe education creates inequalities why aren't they trying to remove the meal tickets/social status certificates such as Arts Degrees, Science Degrees, Matriculation and the various other signs that one is in some way superior to others, not in acquired skills but in an indeterminant social way.



## want to be a teacher, eh?

Practice Teaching and the **NSW Public Service Board.** 

Some trouble has arisen in regard to practice teaching arrangements in some schools. and it appears as if measures will have to be taken to ensure that satisfactory arrangements are made for all practice teaching carried out by almost all the teacher education institutions in NSW.

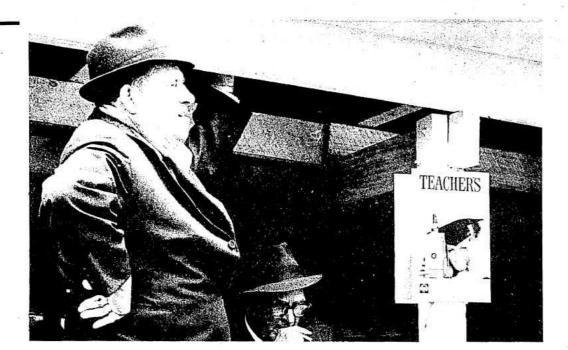
The NSW Public Service Board has had some part to play in creating the present unrest by reversing or varying one of its prior decisions.

When Macquarie University embarked upon its teacher education programme, a decision was made to employ "master teachers" in schools to liase with the University, and to assist in the professional education of teacher trainees including practice teaching supervision. Macquarie University made this decision because, in their professional

judgment, this was a very desirable procedure. The NSW Public Service Board agreed to pay the Macquarie University "master teachers' at the rate of \$350 pa for 1 student and \$440 pa for two students. They always stated that this was for an experimental period.

Other teacher education institutions wished to adopt the Macquarie pattern, or modifications of it. The Teachers Federation, aware that increasing demands would be made of teachers in the schools, drew up a schedule of payment which is believed should operate, in regard to practice teaching supervision. This schedule was never discussed with the Public Service Board because the Board made a Salary Determination late last year.

The University of NSW wished to vary its programme for teacher trainees and adopted a scheme very akin to that of



Macquarie University. It would seem that the University had also budgeted to pay the teachers cooperating with it at the same level as Macquarie University.

All university authorities apparently concurred, with no one questioning whether this was a proper professional fee for professional service rendered or not. Indeed no one questioned whether the Public Service Board had any right at all to fix a fee to be paid by the employing authorities, in this case the universities. In the interests of a uniform fee, no matter by whom determined, no matter whether just or not, apparent agreement was reached.

Macquarie University, on reflection, decided to go ahead with its own scheme of master teachers and pay for this at the previosuly agreed rates. The uniform scheme has collapsed. When teachers know that they

are free to participate in the Macquarie's scheme or not, that their services will be somewhat adequately remunerated, then teachers are not likely to be enthused with a scheme from the University of New South Wales or elsewhere which seeks in reality a good deal of forced teacher cooperation for the very meagre remuneration proposed by the Public Service Board.

One of the worst possible features is that arrangements were agreed upon, without any prior consultation with teachers, or without any discussion with the Teachers' Federation.

At this stage something happened, on the initiative of some person or group. The NSW Public Service Board had obtained from the Department of Education a list of some of the duties performed by teachers in the schools to assist in the professional education of teachers. Having made its decisions,

the Board apparently arranged a meeting of University authorities in January this year and announced its unilateral decisions. Only two forms of teacher participation would be paid - demonstration lessons, and student assessment at practice teaching, the fee for the latter being \$45 per annum.

Indeed the Federation has not as yet received any direct communication from the Board in regard to these determinations.

Is it any wonder that industrial disputes keep on breaking out, when authorities will deliberately avoid consultation and discussion with the people actually concerned.

It is hoped that discussions will solve this and other disputes likely to emerge in regard to practice teaching.

Dr Eric Pearson, President, Teachers' College. Lecturers' Association.

### rigmor's song

Rigmor, Rigmor I love you, Rigmor, do you love me too? I wanna know that, know just where you're at 'Cause I'm crazy, dazy, like a Cheshire Cat! Rigmor, Rigmor Eyes of green, If I'm a brass-monkey you're mister sheen You make me shine, I'm doing fine When you smile you are sublime!

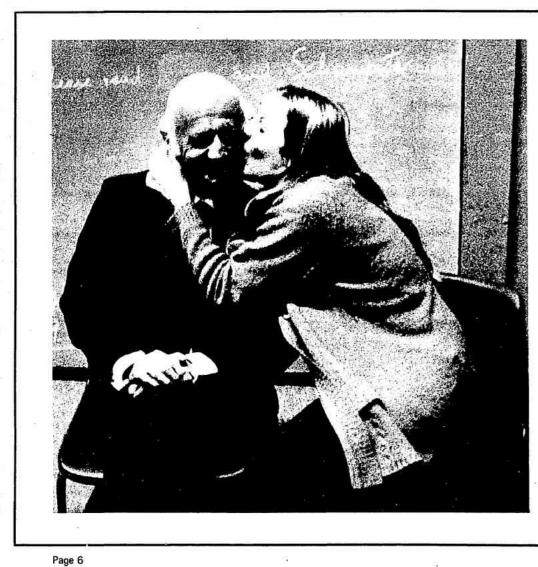
Rigmor, I love you, Yes I do, It's true, Do you love me too? When you smile my heart pops and I glow right down From my head to my toes!

Rigmor, Rigmor, please confess I'm drifting down to nothingness. he way you To see you I'd walk half a mile! Rigmor, please don't be annoyed Rigmor, I am paranoid, You're lovely and free, but let's climb a tree And then I can be nearer to thee!

Rigmor, I am torn, I'm forlorn, This ain't corn, I wish I hadn't been born I'm a little boy blue who to you is just a yawn.

Dum-da-dum Tee-dee-da-dum Tee-dee-da Dum-dum

Tony Dummett.



.

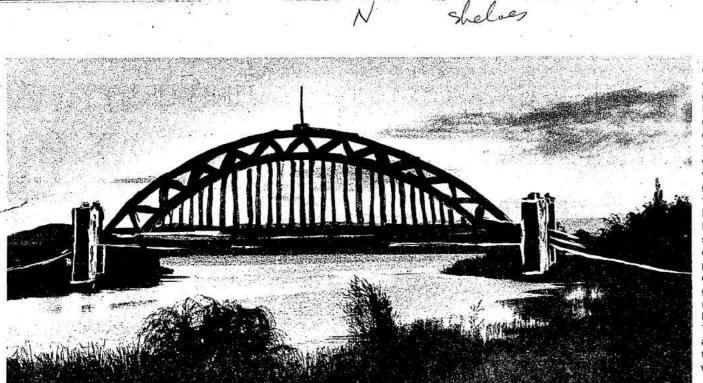
### National Library of Australia

<section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header>	union election			UNIVERSITY	
If leavy percent and up details to back and upper if the percent is back and uppercent is back and upper if the percent is back and up	THE AUSTRAL	LIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY	UNION	PHARM	MACY
Michael Society 1973     THERAY - IN MAY     THERAY - IN MAY     The Hard - In May - In Society 1973     THAM - In May - In Society 1973     The Hard - In May - In Society 1973     The Hard - In May - In Society 1973     The Hard - In May - In Society 1973     The Hard - In May - In Society 1973     The Hard - In May - In Society 1973     The Hard - In May - In Society 1973     The Hard - In May - In Society 1974     The Hard - In May - In Society 1974     The Hard - In May - In Society 1974     The Hard - In May - In Society 1974     The Hard - In May - In Society 1974     The Hard - In May - In Society 1974     The Hard - In May - In Society 1974     The Hard - In May - In Society 1974     The Hard - In May - In Society 1974     The Hard - In May - In Society 1974     The Hard - In May - In Society 1974     The Hard - In May - In Society 1974     The Hard - In May - In Society 1974     The Hard - In May - In Society 1974     The Hard - In May - In Society 1974     The Hard - In May - In Society 1974     The Hard - In May - In Society 1974     The Hard - In May - In Society 1974     The Hard - In May - In Society 1974	NC	OTICE TO ALL MEMBERS		-	en en se se d
• Vicinity C35000000000000000000000000000000000000	мо	NDAY, 30th April, 1973	on:		cal and dispensing service
<text></text>	WEDNESDAY, 2nd May, 1973 THURSDAY, 3rd May, 1973 FRIDAY, 4th May, 1973			* Vitamin C 500mg (100) \$1.45	
Ovr   9.20.12 am   12.20-12 am   32.80 mm   12.80-12 am   12					
Nonday   Burnof   Out-de Suffage   About the During the Burnof will be during the Payer   About the Burnof will be during the Payer   About the Burnof will be during the Payer   About the Payer	Day 9.30-12 am 12.30-1.30 pm 3.30-5 pm 5.30-6.30 pm				
Likery   During   Likery   Form   Form     Wetherstry   Likery   Likery   Likery   Form   Form     Wetherstry   Likery   Likery   Likery   Likery   Form     The data   Likery   Likery   Likery   Kathery     Yetherstry   Likery   Likery   Likery   Kathery     Yetherstry   Likery   Likery   Likery   Kathery     Yetherstry   Likery   Likery   Kathery   Likery     Yetherstry   Kathery   Likery   Kathery   Likery     Yetherstry   Kathery   Kathery   Kathery   Likery     Yetherstry   Kathery   Kathery   Kathery   Kathery     Yetherstry   Kathery   Kathery   Kathery   Kathery     Yetherstry   Kathery   Kathery   Kathery   Kathery     Yetherstry   Yetherstry   Yetherstry   Yetherstry   Yetherstry     Yetherstry   Yetherstry   Yetherstry   Yetherstry   Yetherstry     Yetherstry   Yetherstry   Yetherstry		Burton/ Ursula Garran College	John XXIII College		oply to ALL on ANU
Weinstady   Usion   Usion   Usion   Winn   Winn   The BRUCE HALL MADHATTER'S BALL     Threader, *   Usion   Usion   Usion   Usion   Winn   Provide   Provide <td>Library</td> <td>College Library</td> <td>The second se</td> <td>10</td> <td></td>	Library	College Library	The second se	10	
Threads     Labor     Labor <thlabor< th="">     Labor     Labor     <thl< td=""><td>Wednesday* Union</td><td>Union Union</td><td></td><td>THE BRUCE HALL MAD</td><td>HATTER'S BALL</td></thl<></thlabor<>	Wednesday* Union	Union Union		THE BRUCE HALL MAD	HATTER'S BALL
Pricey   Usion from your beyon	Thursday • Union	Union Union	Union		
Form Form Form Form Form   1 in the Using outflight will be continuous 9 am to 7 public of Edigity and Fider   Duals of Edigity to wording rootsets construction the Using Electronic Rootsets   Duals of Edigity to wording rootsets construction the Using Electronic Rootsets   Duals of Edigity to wording rootsets construction the Using Electronic Rootsets   Table of Edigity to wording rootsets	Friday* Union	Union Union	Union	DINNER	7.45
Additional from my office on result.   S3.00single     Per identification propersit, Members are requested to have their Union Cards with them.   BRUCE HALL SATURDAY MAY 5TH     The following conditions have been noninitated to stand at the electore:   BRUCE HALL SATURDAY MAY 5TH     The following conditions have been noninitated to stand at the electore:   BRUCE HALL SATURDAY MAY 5TH     The following conditions have been noninitated to stand at the electore:   E.C.M.Tenh, SEGETARY TO THE UNION Fearing Officer,     12 Aveil, 1973   E.C.M.Tenh, SEGETARY TO THE UNION Fearing Officer,   E.C.M.Tenh, SEGETARY TO THE UNION Fearing Officer,     12 Aveil, 1973   E.C.M.Tenh, SEGETARY TO THE UNION Fearing Officer,   E.C.M.Tenh, SEGETARY TO THE UNION Fearing Officer,     12 Aveil, 1973   E.C.M.Tenh, SEGETARY TO THE UNION Fearing Officer,   E.C.M.Tenh, SEGETARY TO THE UNION Fearing Officer,     12 Aveil, 1973   E.C.M.Tenh, SEGETARY TO THE UNION Fearing Officer,   E.C.M.Tenh, SEGETARY TO THE UNION Fearing Officer,     12 Aveil, 1973   And Tener, Foll-time art, The Mark Fearing Officer,   E.G.M.Tenh, SEGETARY TO THE UNION Fearing Officer,     12 Aveil, 1973   And Tener, Foll-time art, The Mark Fearing Officer,   E.G.M.Tenh, SEGETARY, TO THE UNION FEARING, NUMER TICKER ON THE ELECK MOUNTAIN FREEWAY - WHY IT MUST BE STOPPED'     12 Aveil, 1973   And Tener, Foll-time art, The Mark Fearing Officer,   E.G.M.Tenh, SEGETARY, TEN, Thir	* In the Union polling will be	0.00000000000 000000000000000000000000	1999 C		
<text><text><text><text><text><text><image/><image/><table-row><table-container><table-container><table-container><table-container><table-container><table-container><table-row><table-row><table-container><table-row><table-container><table-row><table-row><table-container><table-row><table-row></table-row></table-row></table-container></table-row></table-row></table-container></table-row></table-container></table-row></table-row></table-container></table-container></table-container></table-container></table-container></table-container></table-row></text></text></text></text></text></text>	Details of eligibility and voting available from my office on rec	procedure contained in the Union Elect quest.	ctoral Rules are	DINNER TICKETS	\$5.50 single
The following dividuality have been nonmitted to shard at the decision:     Private Priva					
<text></text>	n in the second s		n:-		
Image: State S	12 April, 1973	TURNER, Judy E.C.deT SECRE	TARY TO THE UNION		
onomics II Labour Club     72/73 Theatre Group, consolidity, Lib/C.P. esident, Econ. History student. Have been involved in womens lib. on campus, also the moratorium and at present am a member of the ANU Labour Club: was a member of 1971 Film Group Committee and active in anti-apartheid 1971.     by a distant official dy, students never see or hear on available to everyone; o ensure that Board decises reflect student opinion. oa available to everyone; ident complaints e.g. food ices.   Third year third yea				HEAR DR. JO	HN KIRK ON NTAIN FREEWAY
to ensure that Board decis- ns reflect student opinion. to avoid repitition of past udent complaints e.g. food rices. hn Farrow: Third year story student (F).	nomics II Labour Club 2/73 Theatre Group, on Society, Lib/C.P. sident, Econ. History son Committee. a New Union should not be by a distant official ly, students never see or hear. are should be more inform-	Third year history student. Have been involved in womens lib. on campus, also the morator ium and at present am a mem- ber of the ANU Labour Club: was a member of 1971 Film Group Committee and active	year. Full-time.	A DISCUSSION OF T	ACTICS FOLLOWS
1972. Active theatre group and CAC House Committee Transmission by post as a Short's as disgusting, and also	e ensure that Board decis- s reflect student opinion. avoid repitition of past dent complaints e.g. food ces. <b>n Farrow:</b> Third year	A Company		Created by: Andrew, Rigmor, David, Huw, Dud, Claire, John M., Jennifer, Spratt Picis: Pricipix Artwork: Ann Britton Busy Manager: Grimau Vol. 25 No. 8 19 April, 1973	Director of Student Public- ations for ANUSA D.S.P. APOLOGIES The DSP apologisesfor the article last week that referred

National Library of Australia

http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page16010944

Page 7



Artists impression of Black Mt. Freeway crossing Sullivan's Creek.

Freeway pile-up

### Environmental impact of Dr the Car on Canberra – the Lake shore freeway\*

, sas

It is not always appreciated how enormous an effect assumptions about the most desirable form of transportation have on the planning of a city.

The ancient cities of Europe were built for people relying on foot, and horse, transport and owe much of their charm to the intimate scale which resulted from this. In the twentieth century however, the guiding principle in the planning of many new cities, and in the expansion of some older ones, is that the private motor car is the most desirable form of transport within the city.

What are the consequences, environmental, social, economic, of designing a city in this way? To appreciate fully the long-term results of planning a city around the private motor car, we must look overseas, notably in the United States, where this process began rather earlier.

Ideally, the motor car can offer a very convenient form of door-to-door transport. Unfortunately the provision of unlimited facilities for the car driver, particularly the commuter, in cities, has had a variety of undesirable effects, some quite unforeseen Perhaps the most obvious consequence of total capitulation to the demands of the motor car is the construction of gigantic multi-lane freeways into the heart of the city, with their associated interchanges, flyovers and other ancillary structures, not to mention all the proli ferating car parks necessary to accommodate the cars that drive into the city on the freeways.

The deleterious consequences of these freeways are not only visual, but social as well: the eminent American architect Mr Peter Blake, speaking on the ABC program 'Guest of Honour' in 1970 said, "The

Page 8

Dr J.T.O. Kirk Society for Social Responsibility in Science (ACT)

first thing that we did wrong in the US seems to be to really give in to the highway engineers who ... cut enormous tears through existing cities, built their highways like Chinese walls that divided up cities into communities that had no contact with one another at all after that ... some of the most important assets of our cities were sacrificed to the highway engineer who destroyed parklands, who destroyed scenic assets of the city, who destroyed communities ... This ... has done probably more to destroy American cities physically and socially ... than any other single factor that I can imagine".

Another very noticeable characteristic of the car-dominated city is pollution, coming in various forms. Noise polution is the most obtrusive of these. Less obvious but more deadly are those automobile pollutants which directly affect human health. Over 70 million tons of the highly poisonous gas carbon monoxide, which interferes with the oxygencarrying capacity of the blood, are liberated into the atmosphere in the United States every year, most of this comes from automobiles. In Tokyo traffic policemen are supplied with oxygen cylinders to help them overcome the noxious effects of this gas.

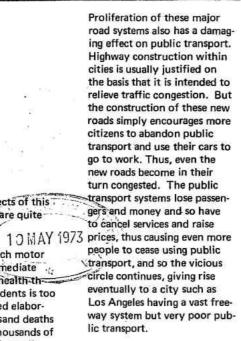
Photochemical smog, causing pain and irritation to the eyes, for which Los Angeles is notorious, is produced by the effects of sunlight on substances in car exhausts. Nitrogen oxides are under suspicion as causative agents for the serious respiratory disease pulmonary emphysema: nearly half the nitrogen oxides liberated into the atmosphere in the US come from car exhausts. Lead, a very poisonous element. is discharged to the atmosphere from automobile exhausts at the rate of 250,000 tons per annum in the United States:

the long-term effects of this on human health are quite unknown.

The extent to which motor vehicles are an immediate hazard to human health-through traffic accidents is too well known to need elaborating: three thousand deaths and many more thousands of injuries a year in Australia alone are a sufficient testimony.

The continual necessity to keep out of the path of motor vehicles greatly lessens any enjoyment which people might otherwise derive from walking through the city streets.

Another unfortunate consequence of the ad libitum provision of freeways which has been observed to occur in the United States is that it greatly encourages the spread of lowdensity suburbia. Quite apart from the uneconomic use of land and the swallowing-up of open areas of recreational and amenity value for the city, this tendency had the further, somewhat unexpected result that the city centre began to die as retail business and some industries moved out to the suburbs.



The fact that public transport systems so often lose money is sometimes regarded as an agrument favouring private transport. However, much of the good economic consequen ces of public transport (for example, that it makes wasteful investment in facilities for private transport unnecessary) never appear in the balance sheet. By the same token many of the bad economic consequences of private transport are hidden from view. Perhaps the most serious of these is the wasteful use of valuable urban land (one big interchange can occupy up to 100 acres) for which the urban motorist, as such, pays little or nothing.

A fact which should be giving city planners all over the world cause to re-think their phil-



wal? osophies is that petrol-based commuting by the large, energy-wasteful private car, as we know it today, is inevitably doomed, probably before this century is out. The reason is that the world is running out of oil. Recent estimates of world oil reserves (with fairly generous assumptions about future discoveries) by a senior British Petroleum geologist lead to the conclusion that we shall have to start reducing oil consumption by the 1990s, perhaps sooner. By the end of the century oil will be regarded as much too precious a natural resource to be merely burnt up in private motor cars. Thus major changes in our attitude to different modes of transport will be necessary whether we like it or not.

378.947

While a city remains small it is usually possible to cater fairly generously for the private car commuter and still maintain some reasonable level of urban quality. But as the city grows the difficulties of reconciling both these aims become greater and eventually there comes the crunch: the point at which to satisfy the ever increasing demands of the car some particularly valuable feature of the city environment must be sacrificed. For Canberra that point has now been reached. To facilitate the flow of commuter cars in and out of central Canberra the NCDC proposes to construct a major freeway (the Molonglo freeway) from Parkes Way westward. It will skirt the lake shore at West Basin, cut through the university, span Sullivan's Creek, traverse the northern lake shore at the foot of Black Mountain (filling in a substantial strip of the lake in the process) and join up with the Tuggeranong Freeway in a concrete jungle of flyovers and underpasses near the sork oak forest north-

For the quality of the Canberra environment this road will be a disaster. It will lay a strip of noise, fumes and visual blight across an area that not only contains some of the most beautiful views to be seen in any of the world's capitals, but is also of inestimable recreation value for the people of Canberra. The Lake/ Mountain region is a precious resource that must be conserved.

west of the lake.

The Molonglo Freeway represents the first major conflict to arise between the demands of the motor car and the quality of the environment, in this city. It will not be the last. It is the belief of the Society for Social Responsibility in Science that the ime has come to face up to the fact that total capitulation to the automobile can not be reconciled with the maintenince of any reasonable level of urban environmental quality. A fundamental change in attitudes to city transport, amongst the citizens as well as the planners, is required. This will be the essential theme of my talk to the Environment Society on Tuesday, May 1.

Much of this article first appeared in the *Canberra Times*, May 1, 1972.

### National Library of Australia